This is Governor Haley Barbour.

As I hope you know, Hurricane Ike is projected to stay south and west of Mississippi, so we have not ordered any evacuations from the Coast. However, experience teaches us that hurricanes are hard to predict, and you need to stay alert for changes that could re-direct Ike toward us.

Now is the time to have your preparations in place. Make sure you have a fully stocked emergency kit with items like a flashlight, batteries, non-perishable food and water, and a weather radio.

Stay tuned to your local radio and TV stations for the latest information on Ike. Here in Mississippi, we always pray for the best but prepare for the worst.

Thank You.